

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-10 (Cancelled)

5 11. (New) Device for coiling a long product comprising a mandrel with a substantially cylindrical shape and rotating around its own axis, and a containing element coaxial with said mandrel, rotating together therewith and defining a front wall to contain the coil of product to be formed, wherein said mandrel comprises a forming zone for at least a first spiral of said coil, wherein said containing element comprises an annular channel to clamp the leading end of said product around said mandrel, and wherein said containing element is axially movable with respect to said mandrel between a first position in which said leading end of said product is inserted and said annular channel is arranged in correspondence with said forming zone, and a second position in

10 15 which said coil of product is completed and said annular channel is displaced from said forming zone, said containing element remaining in said first position temporarily and said second position being retracted with respect to said mandrel so that said annular channel is outside the space occupied by said coil during the completion of said coil.

20 12. (New) Device as in claim 11, wherein said containing element includes an axially sliding inner surface which allows said containing element to slide axially between said first and said second position.

25 13. (New) Device as in claim 11, wherein at least a guide and containing device is provided to be driven between a first working position in which said guide and containing device cooperates with said containing element, and a second inactive position in which said guide and containing device is arranged distant from said containing element.

30 14. (New) Device as in claim 11, wherein clamping means associated with said mandrel are provided to clamp at least temporarily said leading end of said

product.

15. (New) Device as in claim 14, wherein said clamping means comprise pincer means able to be selectively activated, and arranged in correspondence with said forming zone of said mandrel.

16. (New) Device as in claim 11, wherein a lateral wall of said annular channel is parallel to said front wall of said containing element, at least the first spiral of said product being able to abut against said lateral wall.

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17. (New) Device as in claim 16, wherein said lateral wall is made in the form of a ridge or annular tooth, attached solidly to or as an integral part of said mandrel.

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18. (New) Method for coiling a long product achieved by means of a device that comprises a mandrel with a substantially cylindrical shape and rotating around its own axis, and a containing element coaxial with said mandrel, rotating together therewith and defining a front wall to contain the coil of product to be formed, said method comprising the following steps:

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- a first step wherein a leading end of said product is inserted into a guide and containing device able to guide said leading end to a position substantially tangent to a determinate forming zone of said mandrel, said first step occurring while said containing element is in a first position for the insertion of said leading end of said product, substantially in correspondence with said determinate forming zone of said mandrel;

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- a second step wherein said leading end of said product is introduced into an annular channel of said containing element;

- a third step wherein at least the first spiral of said product is formed inside said containing element around said mandrel; and

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- a fourth step wherein said containing element is displaced axially with respect to said mandrel to a second position for the completion of said coil of product, in which second position said annular channel is displaced from said forming

zone, in a retracted position with respect to said mandrel so that said annular channel is outside the space occupied by said coil during the completion of said coil.

5 19. (New) Method as in claim 18, wherein during said fourth step said guide and containing device is distanced from said mandrel.

10 20. (New) Method as in claim 18, wherein between the second and the third step clamping means able to keep the leading end of said product stationary with respect to said mandrel are temporarily driven.